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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Gunji et al.

Application No.: 09/926,299

Filing Date: October 9, 2001

For: L-AMINO ACID PRODUCING
BACTERIUM AND METHOD FOR
PRODUCING L-AMINO ACID

Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: Steadman

Attorney Ref. No.: US-1310

VIA FACSIMILE TO: 703 872 9306

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop After Final
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 23, 2004, which set a 3-month shortened statutory period for response thereto, please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows. A one-month extension of time, extending the due date for this response to November 23, 2004 is filed herewith. Favorable re-consideration of the application is respectfully requested.